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USIB-D-16.2/33
6 July 1960

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Validity Study on NIE 76-58

The Outlook for the Horn of Africa

Published 12 November 1958

The attached validity study of NIE 76-58 was noted by the
Intelligence Board on 21 June 1960 (USIB-M-104, item 4.b.).



Executive Secretary

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Attachment

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1. The basic conclusions and judgments contained in NIE 76-58 have held up very well since the paper's publication on 12 November 1958. As the estimate correctly pointed out, the Ethiopian internal situation remains stable and tension between Ethiopia and the Somalia areas has increased, and the British were faced with increasing difficulties in maintaining their position in British Somaliland.

2. The previous estimate did fail, however, to anticipate the Emperor's abrupt acceptance of large-scale Soviet economic aid, although it was noted in the earlier paper that the USSR would be prepared to aid Ethiopia in the event Ethiopia came to believe that its needs were not being adequately met by the West.

3. Although the previous estimate noted that the British would be faced with increasing difficulties in maintaining their position in British Somaliland, the paper failed to anticipate the very rapid movement toward independence which developed and the conclusion of plans for merger between British Somaliland and the Italian Trust Territory of Somalia prior to Somalia's scheduled date of independence in 1960.

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